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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :  
MASAAKI WACHI ET AL : EXAMINER: KERR  
SERIAL NO. : 09/623,596 :  
FILED: SEPTEMBER 05, 2000 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652  
FOR: A GENE CODING FOR PENICILLIN  
BINDING PROTEIN AND A METHOD  
FOR PRODUCING L-GLUTAMIC ACID

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AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated June 17, 2002 and concurrent with the Request for Continued Examination filed herewith, Applicants request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks:

**Amendments to the specification** begin on page 2 of this paper. A substitute Abstract is appended hereto.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 7.